

Behavioral Risk Factor Survey

The Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS) is a random telephone survey, coordinated through the Centers for Disease Control, which collects information from adults on health behaviors and knowledge related to leading causes of death in each of the states. Approximately 200 interviews were obtained from Overton County. About half of all deaths occurring annually are now attributed to modifiable behavioral risks. In addition to determining what types of health risks are most prevalent in the population, the BRFS data will be very useful in determining what types of interventions are most needed for other health problems such as excess deaths from a particular chronic disease. A modified version of the standard BRFS was developed specifically for the “Community Diagnosis” process. In addition to the questions on the standard BRFS survey, a series of health issues are listed. The respondent is asked if the issue is a “Definite Problem”, “Somewhat of a Problem”, “Not a Problem”, or “Not Sure”. The list of the health issues with frequency of response as a “Definite Problem” is as follows:

		Top Ten Issues Highlighted
Tobacco Use	50%	
Cancer	37%	
Arthritis	33%	
Drug Abuse	32%	
Teen Pregnancy	30%	
Alcohol Abuse	28%	
High Blood Pressure	26%	
Heart Conditions	25%	
Obesity	23%	
Health Problems of the Lungs	23%	
Environmental Issues	17%	
Animal Control	16%	
Diabetes	15%	
Violence in the Home	12%	
STD'S	3%	
Other Violence	2%	
Suicide	2%	
Mental Health Problems	2%	

Overton County's Access to Care Issues Percent Saying Definite Problem

Access to Nursing Home Care	9%
Access to Dental Care	8%
Access to Hospitals	5%
Transportation to Health Care	5%
Access to Physicians or Doctors	5%
Access to Assisted Living Services	5%
Access to Prenatal Care	3%